

CLAIMS

1. A method for providing a multimedia messaging service (MMS), comprising the steps of:

5 (a) connecting a personal terminal of a subscriber with an Internet access function to a MMS server, configuring MMS data, and storing the configured MMS data in a relevant subscriber area of a database;

(b) if certain data are inputted through a sender's mobile communication terminal and then transmitted to a recipient's mobile communication terminal, reading out, by the
10 MMS server, data from the MMS data previously stored in the subscriber area in step (a), the read data being selected according to whether the recipient's mobile communication terminal supports MMS; and

(c) transferring the MMS data read in step (b) and the data inputted through the sender's mobile communication terminal to a mobile communication repeater via a
15 mobile communication company's server to allow the both data to be transmitted to the recipient's mobile communication terminal;

wherein step (b) comprises the steps of:

(b-1) if certain data are requested to be transmitted from the sender's mobile communication terminal to the recipient's mobile communication terminal, providing
20 the MMS server with sender's and recipient's phone numbers and information on the recipient's mobile communication terminal by the mobile communication company's server;

(b-2) determining, by the MMS server, whether the recipient's mobile communication terminal supports MMS, based on information on the recipient's mobile
25 communication terminal provided in step (b-1);

(b-3) if it is determined in step (b-2) that the recipient's mobile communication terminal supports MMS, reading out the MMS data stored in the relevant subscriber area of the database for a sender; and

(b-4) if it is determined in step (b-2) that the recipient's mobile communication
30 terminal does not support MMS, reading out only SMS data included in the MMS data

stored in the relevant subscriber area of the database for the sender.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein step (a) comprises the steps of:

5 (a-1) if the personal terminal connects with the MMS server and requests a selection of MMS data, displaying a list of MMS data stored in a MMS data area of the database to select MMS data;

(a-2) if certain MMS data are selected through the personal terminal in step (a-1), displaying the selected MMS data and determining whether the selected MMS data will be configured as MMS data for the subscriber;

10 (a-3) if the MMS data are not configured as MMS data for the subscriber in step (a-2), repeating the operation for displaying the list of MMS data to select MMS data; and

(a-4) if the MMS data are configured as MMS data for the subscriber in step (a-2), storing the configured MMS data in the relevant subscriber area of the database.

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3. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein step (a) further comprises the steps of:

(a-5) if the personal terminal connects with the MMS server and requests a selection of MMS data, receiving MMS data from the personal terminal; and

20 (a-6) storing the MMS data received in step (a-5) in the relevant subscriber area of the database.

4. The method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the personal terminal with the Internet access function is a personal computer, a mobile communication
25 terminal or a personal digital assistant (PDA).

5. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:

(d) connecting a mobile communication terminal with an ARS system, configuring MMS data according to guidance of the ARS system, and storing, by the
30 MMS sever, the configured MMS data in the relevant subscriber area of the database.